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(54) Title: METHOD OF INCREASING GROWTH AND YIELD IN PLANTS

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(57) Abstract

The invention provides a method of producing a genetically modified plant characterized as having increased growth and yield as compared to a corresponding wild-type plant comprising increasing the level of cyclin expression in the plant. Genetically modified plants characterized as having increased growth and yield are also provided.

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What is claimed is:

- 1. A method of producing a genetically modified plant characterized as having increased growth and yield as compared to the corresponding wild-type plant, said method comprising:
- contacting plant cells with nucleic acid encoding a cyclin protein, wherein said nucleic acid is operably associated with a regulatory sequence, to obtain transformed plant cells;

producing plants from said transformed plant cells: and selecting a plant exhibiting said increased yield.

- The method of claim 1, wherein the genetically modified plant exhibits increased root growth.
 - 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the genetically modified plant exhibits increased shoot growth.
 - 4. The method of claim 1. wherein the cyclin is cyclaAt.
- 15 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the regulatory sequence is a promoter.
 - 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the promoter is selected from the group consisting of constitutive promoters and inducible promoters.
 - 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the contacting is by physical means.
 - 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the contacting is by chemical means.